

BELGIUM DENIES GERMAN CHARGES IN WHITE BOOK

Legation at Washington Declares the Civilians Didn't Attack Invaders.

GOVERNMENT ORDER CITED IN DEFENCE

WASHINGTON, June 6.—The Belgian Legation issued a statement today repudiating charges against the Belgian Government and people contained in the German White Book in which answer was made to the accusations that German soldiers had committed atrocities in Belgium.

The Belgian Legation asserts that the German Government offers no facts to support its assertions, but merely makes flat denials without proof. Here is the statement:

"The American newspapers have published extracts from a German White Book in which the German Government accuses the Belgian civilian population of having risen en masse and taken up arms against the invaders and of having organized corps of 'franc tireurs'."

"The Belgian Government also claims in this document that the Belgian Government gave free rein to the passions of the population and allowed the German army to be invited to hide their own crimes."

"No proof is brought forward to support these accusations without proof cannot be taken as facts duly proven and established."

"At the beginning of the war the Belgian Government issued the following proclamation, the text of which was reproduced among the documents published by the Belgian commission of inquiry:

"(1) A circular of Mr. Herrier, Minister of the Interior, addressed to the 275 communes of Belgium, by telephone, reminding the population that acts of hostility against the invaders were reserved exclusively to the army, the civil guard and corps of volunteers regularly organized."

"Portions of this circular are borrowed textually from the Hague Convention, such, for example, as the portion which prohibits the population from spontaneously taking up arms on the approach of invaders, which faithfully reproduces Article 2 of the regulations annexed to the Hague Convention."

"In the notice from the same Minister inserted daily in the newspapers and publicly posted in the larger towns of the country in the early part of August, this notice advised the civilian population to abstain carefully from any act of hostility against the foreign troops and characterized as both criminal and inhuman any act of violence committed by a single civilian."

"The majority of communes the local authorities repeated this official warning in the form of notices or general orders duly posted on the walls and other public places. Similar notices were still posted upon the walls of unfortunate cities at the moment of their destruction and were pointed out to the German officers."

"Deposits of Firearms."

"A certain number of communal governments made it obligatory to deposit immediately with the police stations, or at the city halls, all firearms belonging to individuals, revolvers and sporting guns."

"The Germans found these deposits of arms marked with the names of the owners, in several cases, they pretended to look upon it as a proof of a clandestine organization of 'franc tireurs,' held the communal authorities responsible for the whole and imposed upon the entire commune, a heavy fine or even inflicted a terrible punishment upon the whole commune."

"Such were the prosecutions taken by the Belgian Government. They are proved by the official documents, by the despatches of the Belgian Legation in London and by photographs of walls with the notices posted on them."

"If the German Government denies these facts, it should bring proof to support its statements. A simple denial of facts which are so patent and so well established, has not and cannot have any judicial value."

"No organized 'franc tireurs' war existed in Belgium. No evidence has been brought to support the charges and the allegation is denied by the various commissions of inquiry."

"Belgian Priests Defended."

"The German Government accuses the Belgian priests of having participated in the attacks upon the German army. This accusation is absolutely false, the fact is that many priests have been murdered and a great number subjected to barbarous treatments by the Germans."

"The German bureau 'Tax,' a German office of espionage and defence created by the clergy and the 'Parliamentary Centre' thought it necessary in the interest of German Catholicism to throw some light on these calumnies made by Germany and its intrigues into the matter have put the accusations to confusion. A great number of these inquiries have been analyzed by the Rev. Father J. J. S. J. in his pamphlet 'Der Involvement' published by J. J. Manz at Mechelen."

"On the other hand the manner in which the German troops conducted themselves toward the Belgian clergy has been shown by Cardinal Mercier in his pastoral letter, dated Christmas, 1914."

"In the present time, information has been received of forty-nine priests and members of religious orders who have been put to death in Belgium by the German troops. Some of them were brutally murdered and tortured."

"Moreover, in these cases, the most convincing proof was furnished by the victims themselves; the corpses of several of these unfortunate were exhumed and were seen to bear marks of the most horrible mutilations."

"Cardinal's Proposal Incurred."

"Cardinal Mercier proposed to the German authorities that a thorough investigation should be made of each of the cases mentioned by him, that all parties should be heard and that the investigation should be conducted under the presidency of the American Minister in Belgium. No action has been taken on this proposition."

"All the statements of the White Book concerning wanton cruelties committed by Belgians against the German army, in striking contradiction to the documents gathered by the two commissions of inquiry—the commission presided over by Vincent Hayes and the Belgian Commission. Moreover, the White Book does not produce any proofs to support its statements."

"We find ourselves therefore confronted with two alternatives:

"1. The German Government, guaranteed by the faith of that Government, of which it gave proof when on account of respect for its pledged word it refused to violate a treaty which Belgium had signed and chose the horrors of war

FLORAL SHIP LAUNCHED IN BROOKLYN AT SERVICES TO HONOR NAVY'S DEATH



Impressive Services on Campus at the Navy Yard—Patriotic Parade.

More than 2,000 persons gathered on the campus at the navy yard yesterday afternoon to honor the dead of the United States navy who were buried at sea. It was the annual memorial service held under the auspices of the Central Memorial Committee, Sons of Veterans of Brooklyn and Long Island. Nearly every patriotic organization in Kings county was represented.

The various delegations formed at Coney Island, and Myrtle avenue and marched to the yard, accompanied by the full band of Admiral Fletcher's flagship, the New York. The exercises included religious and patriotic hymns by a choir of the Sons of the Veterans' auxiliaries, the spectators joining in.

A feature of the affair was the launching of a floral ship in the shape of a miniature monitor. This piece was constructed that it sat lightly upon the water, but a weight below prevents wash or wave from tipping it for long as it drifts out on the tides.

Among those who took part in the service were Congressman Daniel J. Griffin, State Senator Alfred J. Gilchrist, the Rev. John Lewis Clark, the Rev. Father John D. McCarthy, S. J., Postmaster William E. Kelly and Charles F. Sherman, Mrs. H. D. Hubbard was the soloist.

rather than the breaking of its pledge. These declarations are supported not only by this moral guarantee but also by striking evidence, such as the official proclamations, the collection of newspapers containing the notices published by order of the Belgian Government, the photographs of the walls bearing the placards and the declarations of Cardinal Mercier.

"2. The evidence collected by the Belgian commission of inquiry, which is composed of the most eminent men in Belgium."

"3. The evidence and the word of Viscount Bryce, who acknowledged that he began the inquiry with doubts as to the possibility of such crimes and who was convinced by the evidence."

"On the other hand we have: 'The statements made by the German Government without the support of any proof.'

"It is useful to call attention to the fact that the German Government, while within its White Book frequently cites the Hague convention, commenced the war by the most flagrant violation of that convention, in attacking Belgium, a neutral country, in disregard of a solemn treaty of peace, small and neutral nation whose only offense was to have refused to allow the violation of a treaty or to abandon her neutrality for the benefit of Germany."

"This German Government which cites the Hague convention has continually violated the stipulations of that convention in regard to the conduct to be observed in war."

"It has confiscated and seized the property of private individuals; it has levied contributions and imposed ruinous taxes on a neutral country which it had unjustly attacked; it has bombarded open towns; it has shot, without trial, non-combatants, including women and children; it has made use of poisonous gas; it has tormented unarmed mercenaries, both neutral and belligerent, without warning, and in many cases part of their crews and passengers lost their lives in these unprovoked attacks."

"It has in this last war, planned and caused the death of more than a thousand innocent victims. Among these are the names of many women and over forty little children. Were they too 'franc tireurs'?"

"Between these two collections of evidence the universe will judge, if it has not already done so."

PELLETAN TRUE TO SUBMARINE

Former Minister's Last Article Deals With Favorite Topic.

Paris, June 6.—The Radical prints the last article written by Camille Pelletan, former Minister of Marine, who died on Friday. The article was completed, the paper says, a few minutes before the author dropped dead of heart failure.

The adversaries of M. Pelletan have declared that his policy as Minister of Marine was fatal to the French navy, which has not, they say, been able to recover since his regime. His admirers, on the other hand, point out, show that the navy, which was a far sighted, who first appreciated the importance of submarines as marking the end of immense ironclads.

"Between these two collections of evidence the universe will judge, if it has not already done so."

"The article deals with submarines, a subject in which his interest never flagged. He quotes an interview with Victor Augagneur, the War Minister, in which he declared that recent events had at least partially proved that the advocates of submarines were right in their contention. M. Pelletan pays a high tribute to Admiral Aube, who was Minister of Marine thirty years ago, calling him the founder of the submarine navy, and adding that his efforts were frustrated by the enemies he made among Admirals and big ship builders."

"Pelletan says the Kaiser's criminal use of the submarine must not place a stigma upon that variety of fighting craft. The English and French built the losses, he points out, show the terrible efficiency of the under sea boats. He refers to the exploits of the English submarine in the Dardanelles, and claims that the British had one submarine there and that British."

"What," he asks, "are our submarines doing? Is it that we have none strong enough? If Admiral Aube's ideas had been followed the story of this war would perhaps have been different."



Above—Spectators on the battleship Texas watching the launching (shown below) of the floral ship in honor of the unknown heroes at the Brooklyn navy yard.

FEARS REVERSION TO CHAOS AT WAR'S END

Graduates and Friends Hear Views of Head of Jewish Seminary.

The eight graduates of the Jewish Theological Seminary and their friends at commencement exercises in Anson Hall yesterday heard President Solomon Schechter give his views in regard to the war, its causes and its conduct to date.

"We live in awful times. It is a world in conflagration. Any man, whatever his descent, who does not feel at times as if his heart would break at this terrible suffering of humanity, in which Israel is the greatest sufferer of all, must be classed with those whom Gladstone called as 'possessed of a double dose of original sin.'"

"What the outcome will be to nobody can yet say, but if the world is not to sink under its own burden, if humanity is not to witness such a reversion to chaos as followed the breakdown of the Roman Empire, then it will not be in the direction of the religion of violence. It will be a return to the religion of peace."

"Strength, force, astuteness and similar virtues, useful in themselves as manifestations of vigorous manhood, but dangerously bordering on violence and brutality, will be less valued than meekness, gentleness and humility. It will not be the strong man, but the good man, organization, the great achievement of our age, will give way to generosity and impulse."

"Louis Marshall, president of the trustees, congratulated the seminary and its friends on its growth, never so marked as last year, but added facetiously that it still enjoyed a financial deficit. The work of the seminary is to be enlarged even if the deficit be enlarged as well, he announced. There has been created a chair in the college and Dr. Moses Hyamson has been chosen for it."

The graduates and their degrees are: Murray A. Alt, M. A.; Israel I. Efron, M. A.; Alfred H. Kahn, B. A.; Julius K. plan, M. A.; Reuben Kaufman, M. A.; Milton M. Markowitz, B. S.; David M. Shohet, M. A.; and Hyman Solomon, M. A. The Rev. Israel Eifenheim received the degree of Doctor of Hebrew Literature.

HAMMOND REPLIES TO SULLY.

Gives His Version of the Latter's Suit for \$1,500,000.

WASHINGTON, June 6.—John Hays Hammond, who is being sued by Daniel J. Sully for \$1,500,000 damages, gave out a statement here tonight alleging that he is being persecuted by Mr. Sully and his attorney, John C. Gittings.

"The Sully case is a nutshell," Mr. Hammond says. "It is this: He claims that I prevented him from selling stock of the General Cotton Securities Company, which owned the patent rights in the cotton gin known as the Dorman gin. This is true. Sully made many threats to sell the stock to the public, but as the gin, which was the sole asset of the company, had not been demonstrated to be of commercial value I objected to the sale of stock."

"I stated on the witness stand that it would be just as dishonest for me to agree to the sale of stock in a small mining prospect on the false representation that it was a mine of demonstrated value. The judge instructed the jury that if the gin was in such condition that it would be a fraud on the public to allow stock to be sold then it was no breach of our partnership agreement to refuse to allow the stock to be sold."

NAVY LEAGUE TO HOLD DEFENCE CONFERENCE

Invitations Issued for Luncheon—\$500,000,000 Appropriation to Come Up.

More than 300 invitations have been sent out to well known men in this city for a luncheon and conference on national defence, under the auspices of the Navy League of the United States, to be held at the Recess Club, 60 Broad street, on Thursday, June 10.

The league, which is headed by a committee of officers and directors of the league, made up of J. P. Morgan, Beckman Winthrop, Gen. Horace Porter and Col. Robert M. Thompson.

The Navy League numbers among its officers and directors Dr. Lyman Abbott, Cardinal Gibbons, Col. Theodore Roosevelt, Herbert L. Satterlee, George von Meyer and Elhu Root. Thursday's conference was called, it was said, because of the feeling prevailing all ranks of the league that in view of the present international situation emergency measures ought to be adopted to bring about a navy adequate to the task of defending the shores of the United States from foreign aggression.

Plans will be laid before the conference which have been mapped out by the executive committee of the league for greatly extending the organization's scope of activities. A New York membership committee has been appointed, headed by Ralph B. Strassburger, and league headquarters have been established in the Recess Club.

"One of the first things to be considered," said Col. Thompson, chairman of the executive committee, last night, "will be the petition presented by the league to the President urging him to call a special session of Congress to authorize the appropriation of \$500,000,000 for national defence. We feel it imperative that action be secured in this matter. That sum would suffice to put our navy in a position to command respect among the Powers, and to render war remotely improbable."

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MINISTER SAYS U. S. SHOULD USE SWORD

Join Allies Unless Germany Gives Peace Guarantee, Advises Dr. Shumaker.

PRAYED FOR ITALY'S AID

The entrance of the United States into the war if Germany will not consent to enter into a lasting peace was advocated yesterday afternoon by the Rev. Dr. E. Ellsworth Shumaker of Cambridge, Mass., before a large audience of young men at the West Side Y. M. C. A.

Dr. Shumaker, who is the author of a book on a plan for peace which has been endorsed by Col. Roosevelt, advised the men of the audience not to go to war "on the lower plane" as the result of the sinking of the Lusitania.

"Should Germany refuse to join in a move for just and righteous peace," he said, "then in the name of humanity let us bring to bear the combined moral, spiritual and commercial pressures of the neutral nations. At last, if we are on the higher plane let us draw the sword in the name of civilization to end the war more speedily and to make more sure of a righteous peace that will endure."

"I have been opposed to war since my teens, but ever since the outbreak of this war I have been praying that Italy would enter it, for I thought that it would mean a speedier termination of hostilities. That is my attitude in regard to the United States, for this country, by its entrance might possibly save from one to three million lives and when conditions of peace are discussed we would have a voice. With the United States, England and France, which are all opposed to militarism, lined up against militarism that curse would be banished from the globe."

"If we must go to war, however, let us convince Germany that we are not going to win the sword for ten years if necessary in order to bring about the eternal downfall of militarism."

"The sword, then, is right for the United States to allow munitions of war to be sent to the Allies," Dr. Shumaker was asked.

"If Germany will join in a genuine movement for just and righteous peace we should stop it by all means," he replied. "But if Germany refuses, then we must send our munitions as much as possible and ten times as much if possible."

In reply to another question Dr. Shumaker said he believed that fewer than a million people in Germany caused the war.

"If the whole people had ruled in Germany, then there would have been no war," he asserted.

"PREPARE," SAYS DR. HADLEY.

Yale's Head Says There Is Middle Ground for U. S.

"There are two ways to invite war," said Dr. Arthur T. Hadley, president of Yale, yesterday, according to an interview with the Associated Press. "One is to make too much preparation and the other to make too little. I believe we are going very far in the latter direction. Personally I am heartily in favor of preparation, but I believe that the United States should be held at the Recess Club, 60 Broad street, on Thursday, June 10."

Another college president who came out yesterday with a similar statement was Dr. E. S. Luther of Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., who is mentioned as having been taken as a hostage by the Germans in a war article in McClure's.

In discussing the situation, Dr. Luther said that the United States should be held at the Recess Club, 60 Broad street, on Thursday, June 10.

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FINDING FOR FRANK IS EXPECTED TO-DAY

Prison Commission Said to Be Ready to Recommend Clemency.

UNFAIRNESS IS CHARGED

ATLANTA, June 6.—Solicitor-General Dorsey will appear before Gov. John M. Slaton when the petition for commutation of Leo M. Frank's sentence comes up for a hearing, in order to enter a protest against any change in the verdict of the jury.

This became known to-day when it was learned that Gov. Slaton had written a letter to the Solicitor-General in which he had granted permission to Mr. Dorsey to appear before him in the event the Frank case is presented to him for action.

It is also said that attacks will be made upon some of the evidence introduced by the Prison Commission. It is understood that Mr. Dorsey, through his detectives, has investigated the letter written by Judge Roan on his deathbed, in which the Judge emphasized his doubt of the guilt of Frank.

Mr. Dorsey in the last few weeks has received thousands of letters protesting against any interference with the decision of the Judge and jury and has many petitions which, it is understood, he will present to the Governor.

It is generally believed that the Prison Commission will make its recommendation known to-morrow. The understanding is that this recommendation will be favorable, owing to the splendid showing made by the prisoners' representatives.

The Governor is by no means bound to accept the finding. The commission has the power to send the case to the Governor without any recommendation.

It is said that the commission's finding, if favorable, will be attacked by Mr. Frank's friends. "When in doubt," it is said, "the commission will favor the prisoner."

Many letters received by Mr. Dorsey from Georgians declare that "outside influences" are at work to break down Georgia's courts and make a mockery of the criminal law.

The real sensation at the hearing before Gov. Slaton is expected to develop from the attack on the letter of the late Judge Roan. It is said that Mr. Dorsey has starting affidavits in regard to this letter.

TELLS FORDHAM NOT TO HATE.

Preacher of Baccalaureate Sermon Advises Students.

Commencement exercises at Fordham College began yesterday afternoon with the baccalaureate sermon in the college chapel. The Rev. Richard B. Cushman of Tuckahoe, N. Y., of the class of '88 delivered the address. He chose for his text the words from St. John, "Remember all things by which ye have been taught."

The idea of the sermon was that the strong man, with character based on Christian ethics, does not yield to hatred of the enemies who rise up as he goes through life.

"Stand true to your principles and do not fear those who hate your ideals," said Father Cushman. "When in doubt turn and trust to the eternal truth, the God of all."

After the sermon the graduates were the guests at a banquet in Senior Hall.

DOC BEIGEL ARRESTED.

Is Taken on Theft Charge Reported Last November.

Henry Beigel, known as "Doc," who had been arrested last November on a charge of stealing \$100 worth of jewelry from the Hotel Savoy in a restaurant in Sixth avenue near Forty-fifth street in November of last year.

Beigel lived in a rooming house which was conducted by Mrs. Robert J. Shyer, who lost her life on the Lusitania. Moser said in his complaint that he had seen Beigel in a rooming house in Paris a year ago.

Doc Beigel, well known as a card player on ocean liners, was arrested in London last fall on suspicion of being a spy, but was discharged.

PREDICTS WAR OF RACES.

Missionary Says Orient Is Waiting for the Hour to Strike.

ARLINGTON, N. J., June 6.—An alignment of Orient against Occident as a possible outcome of the European war is seen by Dr. C. Wilhelm Scheideler, an American missionary who has just returned from India after a stay of twenty-two years. Dr. Scheideler is visiting his brother, August Scheideler of Davis avenue.

"I believe the yellow peril is a possibility," said the missionary when talking with the Associated Press. "The East is watching events and waiting to take part when the time is ripe. They all see the white roses of the earth arrayed against each other. They see their conquerors being killed by the thousands. Day by day the strength of the white men of Europe is weakening. Every hour that prolongs the battle and gives to death a heavier toll brings nearer in their eyes the dawn of Asia's opportunity."

"When the hour strikes it will not be India and China and Japan in sporadic rebellion against England and Germany, but a united front of Asia against Europe. It will be the Orient against the Occident. Between the two peoples there is an antagonism that is coeval with creation and that will outlast the reckonings of time."

PURPOSE REVEALED OF CHINESE TOUR